Claims

1. A contrast agent of formula I

   V - L - R   (I)

   where V is an organic group having binding affinity for an angiotensin II receptor site, L is a linear or branched amino acid-comprising biomodifier or linker moiety , and R is a reporter moiety detectable in *in vivo* imaging of a human or animal body.
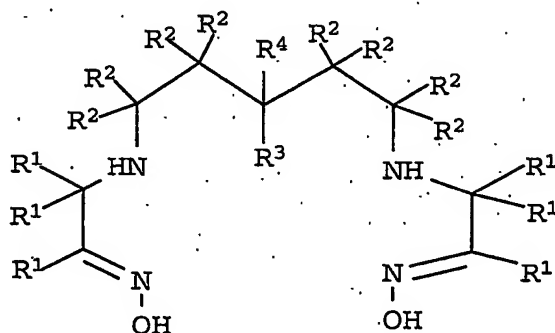
2. A contrast agent according to claim 1 or 2 where V is Losartan, Valsartan, Candesartan or Eprosartan.

3. A contrast agent according to claims 1-2 where L is comprising 1-40 amino-acid residues.

4. A contrast agent according to claim 1-3 where L additionally comprises one or more dicarboxylic acid units, ethyleneglycol units or PEG-like components or combinations of the above and preferably comprises one or more diclycolyl, glycolyl, glutaryl or succinyl units or combinations thereof.

5. A contrast agent according to any of the preceding claims where L is branched.

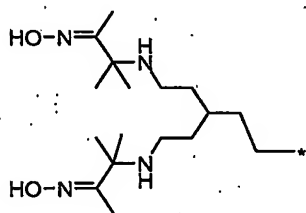6. A contrast agent according to claim 1-5 where the chelating agent is of formula II

(II)

where:

each R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 is independently an R group;

each R group is independently H or C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{3-10} alkylaryl, C_{2-10} alkoxyalkyl, C_{1-10} hydroxyalkyl, C_{1-10} alkylamine, C_{1-10} fluoroalkyl, or 2 or more R groups, together with the atoms to which they are attached form a carbocyclic, heterocyclic, saturated or unsaturated ring.

7. A contrast agent according to any of the preceding claims where the chelating agent is of formula (e).

8. A contrast agent according to any of the preceding claims characterised in that it is ^{99m}Tc (Losartan-Leu-diglycolyl-cPn216) , ^{99m}Tc (Losartan-Leu-Gly-diglycolyl-cPn216), ^{99m}Tc (Losartan-Leu-β-Ala-diglycolyl-cPn216) or ^{99m}Tc (Losartan-Leu-Lys(Propionyl-PEG(12)-Ac)-Diglycoloyl-cPn216)

9. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of a compound of general formula I or a salt thereof, together with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvants, excipients or diluents for use in enhancing image contrast in *in vivo* imaging.

10. A method of generating enhanced images of a human or animal body previously administered with a contrast agent composition comprising a compound as defined by formula I, which method comprises generating an image of at least part of said body.

11. A kit for the preparation of a radiopharmaceutical composition of formula I comprising a ligand-chelate conjugate and a reducing agent.